



FEMA



Prepared by
Jennifer McNatt

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Monday, December 31, 2018

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh.

Summary of the Upcoming Week



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Today (New Year's Eve)

- Strong to severe storms possible over E LA & SE AR; damaging winds are the main threat, isolated tornado possible.
- Another round of heavy snow begins over N & W NM, spreading into S & E NM during the day; travel impacts are likely. Dangerous wind chill values are also expected.

Tuesday (New Year's Day)

- Heavy snow continues over NM with travel impacts likely on New Year's Day.
- A wintry mix (sleet, freezing rain and light snow) is possible over N & Central TX late Tuesday night; some travel impacts possible.

Wednesday

- A wintry mix of precipitation (sleet, freezing rain and snow) is possible across N and Central TX into OK and NW AR; travel impacts likely.
- Heavy rainfall/isolated flash flooding is possible across N LA and S AR.

Thursday - Friday

- No significant weather expected.

River Flooding


- Minor to Moderate river flooding is occurring or expected across E TX and LA.
 - The Trinity River at Liberty is expected to rise into major flood stage again today.
 - The Pearl River in SE LA has risen into moderate flood and the site near Pearl River, LA is nearing major flood stage today; one subdivision will see flooding (streets and a few homes), and numerous other roads will be inundated.
- Minor river flooding is occurring across AR.







FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Dec 31, 2018 – Jan 4, 2018



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DAY / THREAT	MON		WED	THU	FRI
Severe Storms	E LA, SE AR				
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding			N LA, S AR		
Winter Weather	NM	NM, N & Central TX	N & Central TX, OK, NW AR		
Fire Weather					
River Flooding	ETX, S LA	ETX, S LA	SETX, S LA	SETX, S LA	SETX, S LA
	AR, N LA	AR, N LA	ETX, AR, N LA	ETX, AR, N LA	ETX, AR, N LA

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

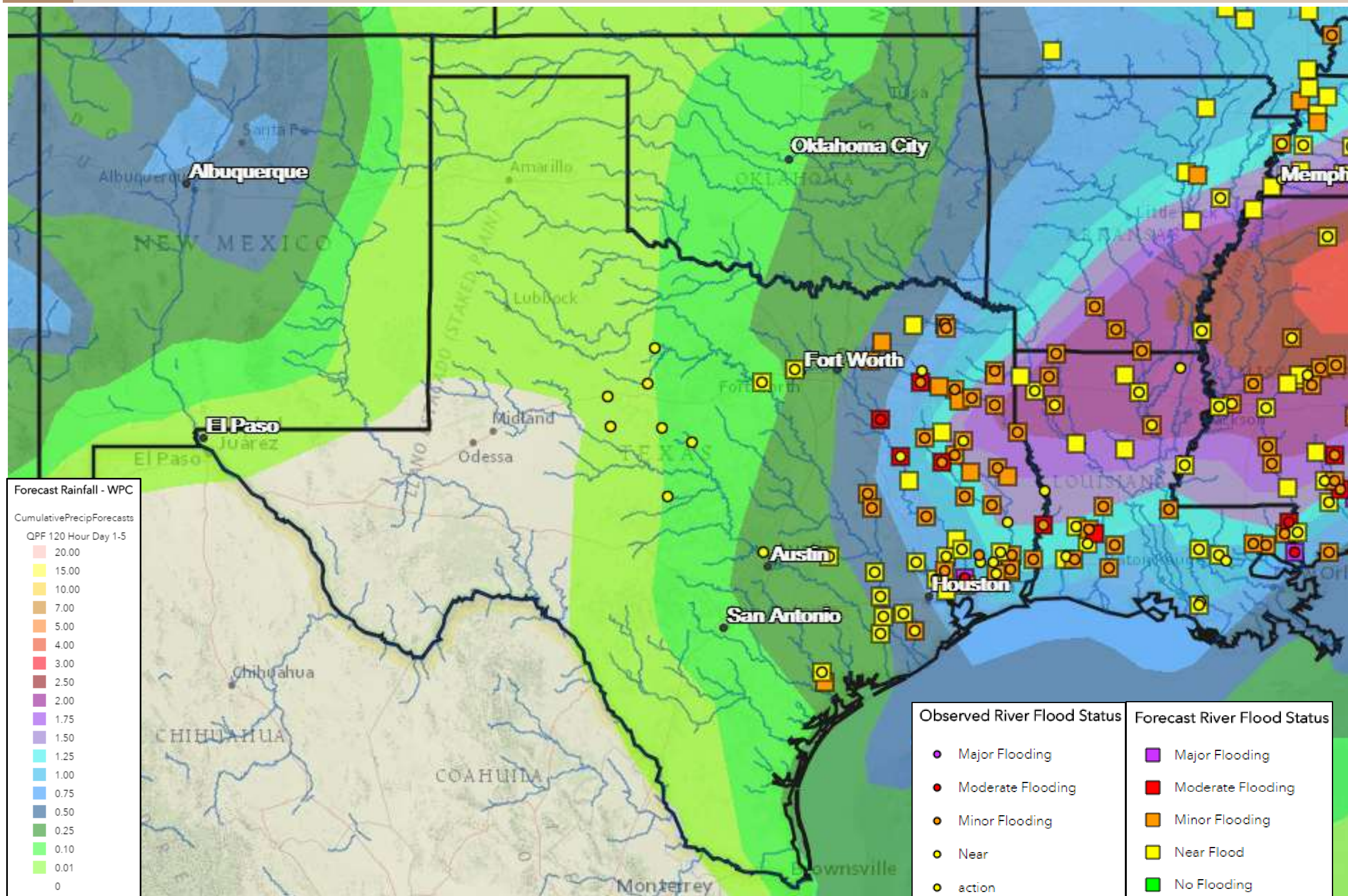
**Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.
State or local threat level criteria may differ.*
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



Minor to Moderate river flooding is occurring or expected across ETX and LA.

The Trinity River at Liberty is expected to rise into major flood stage again today.

The Pearl River in SE LA has risen into moderate flood and the site near Pearl River, LA is nearing major flood stage today; one subdivision will see flooding (streets and a few homes), and numerous other roads will be inundated.

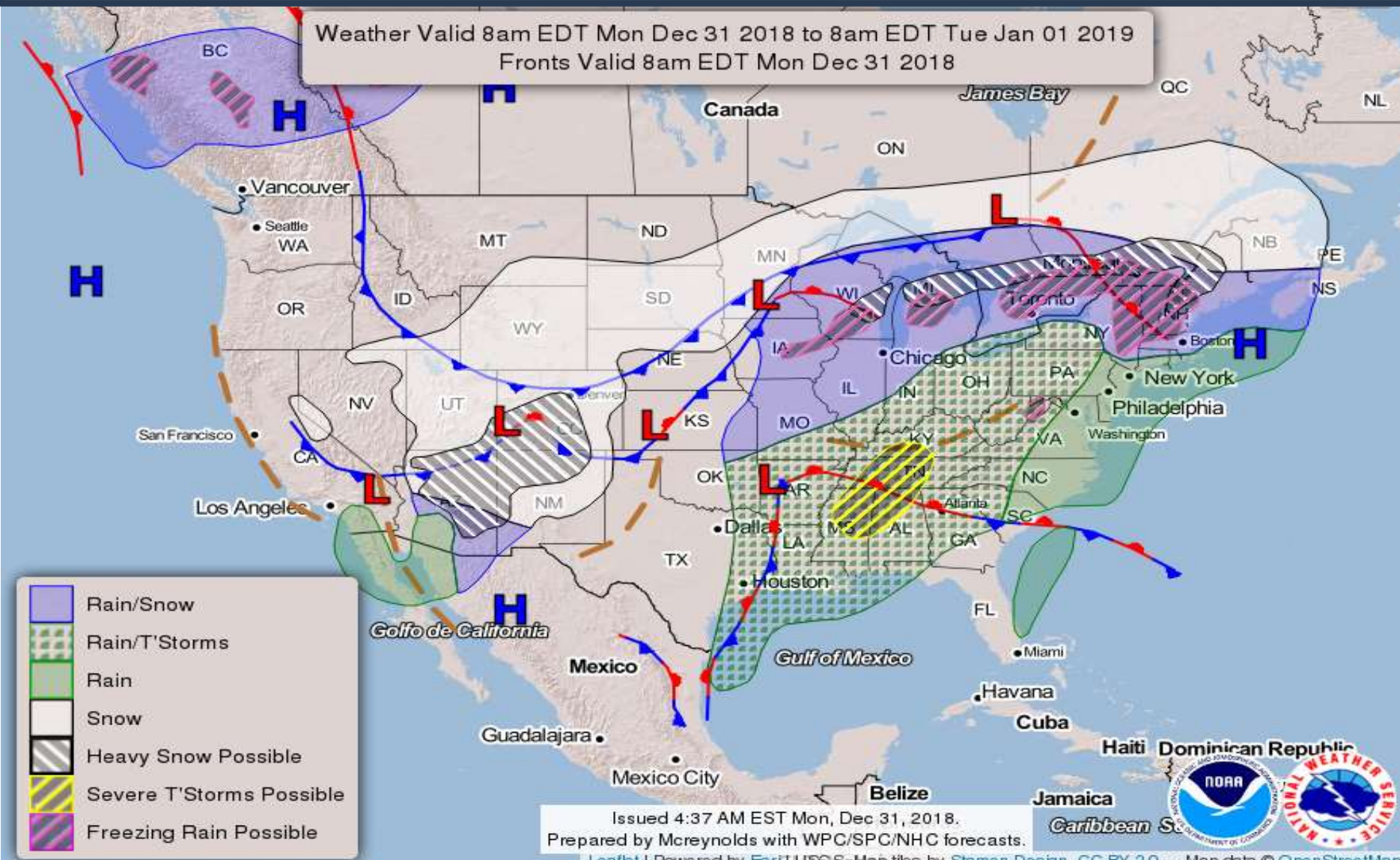
Minor river flooding is occurring across AR.

Today's Weather



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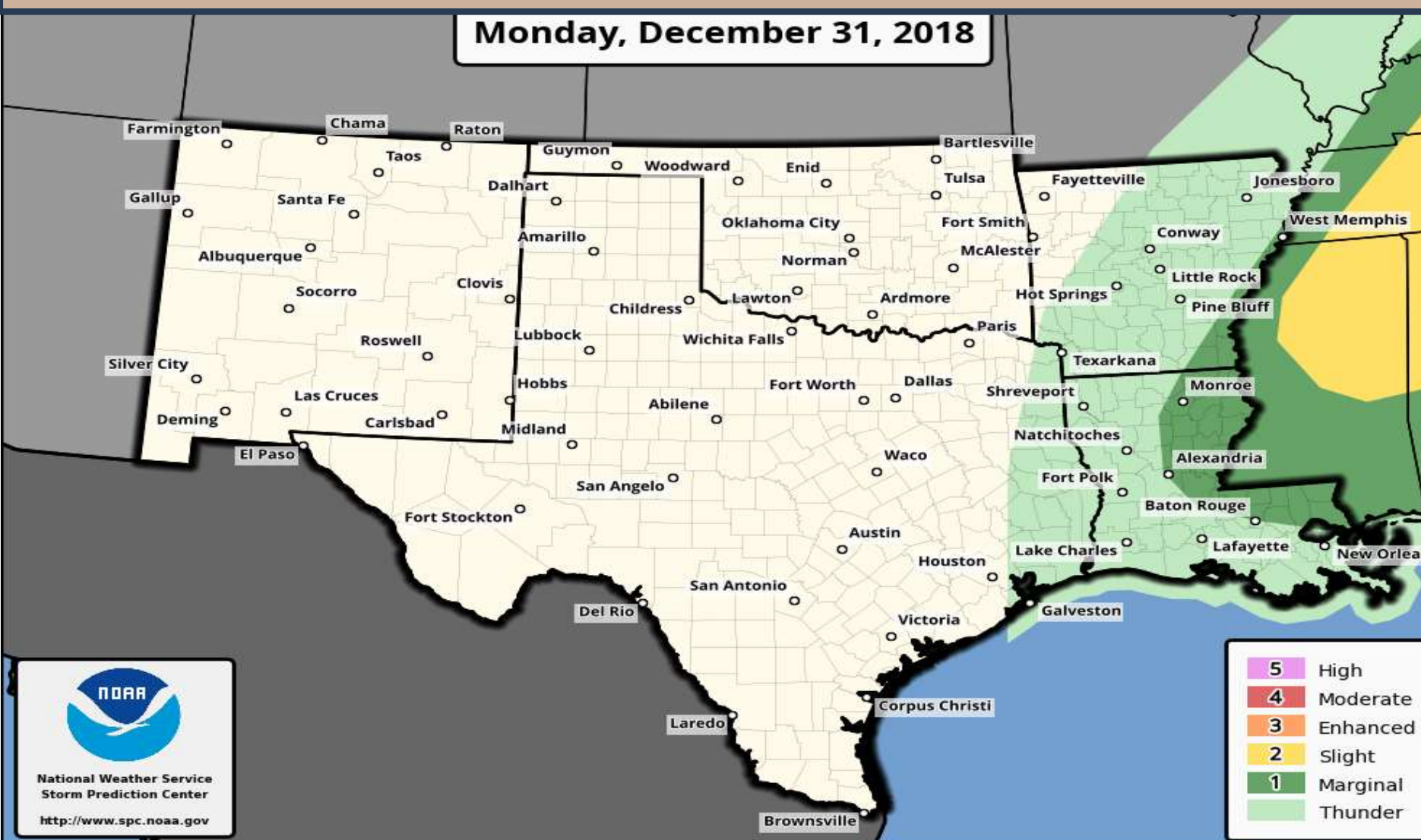
Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall



Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Strong to severe storms possible over E LA & SE AR; damaging winds are the main threat, isolated tornado possible.

**Another round of heavy snow begins over N & W NM, spreading into S & E NM during the day; travel impacts are likely.
Dangerous wind chill values are also expected.**

Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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Fire Weather



Graphic Created

Severe Weather & Flooding



Graphic Created

Winter Storm Warnings in effect across much of NM.

High Wind Warnings in effect for higher elevations of W TX and SE NM.

Strong & Gusty Winds



Graphic Created

Winter Weather



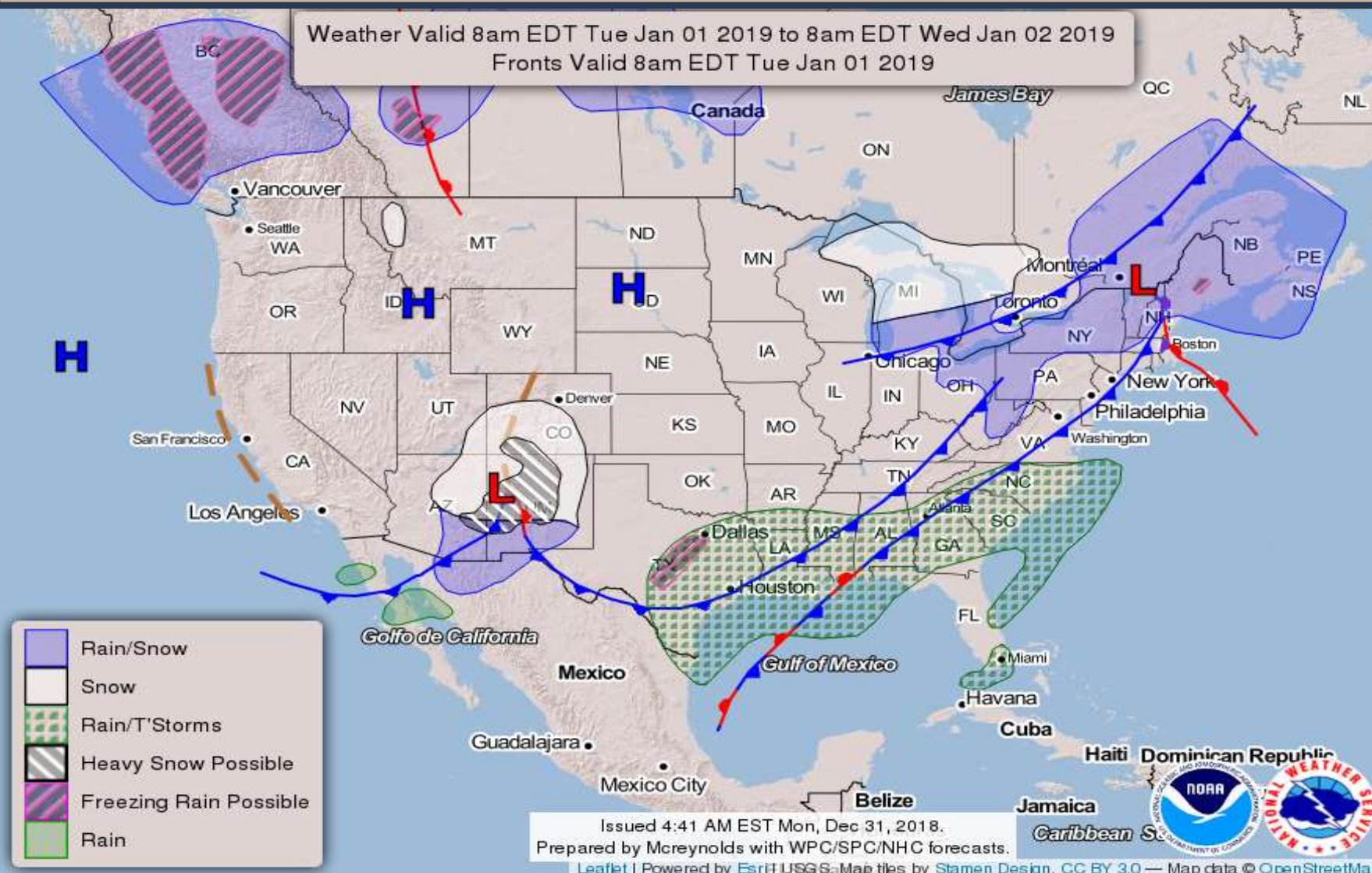
Graphic Created

Tomorrow's Weather



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Forecast Chart



Forecast Rainfall

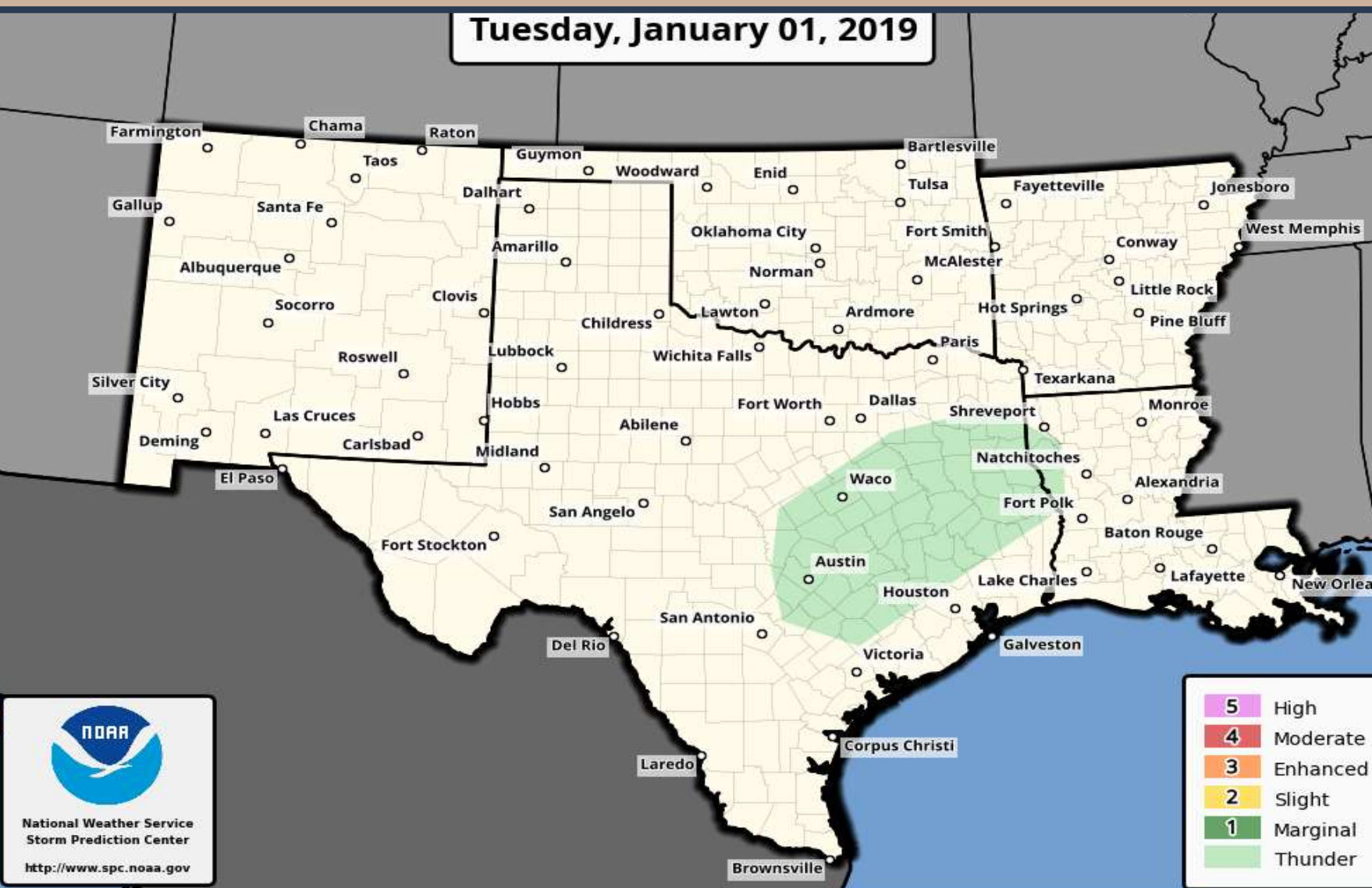


Heavy snow continues over NM with travel impacts likely on New Year's Day.

A wintry mix (sleet, freezing rain and light snow) is possible over N & Central TX late Tuesday night; some travel impacts possible.

Severe Weather Outlook

Tuesday, January 01, 2019



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Wednesday's Weather



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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall

A wintry mix of precipitation (sleet, freezing rain and snow) is possible across N and Central TX into OK and NW AR; travel impacts likely.

Heavy rainfall/isolated flash flooding is possible across N LA and S AR.

Severe Weather Outlook

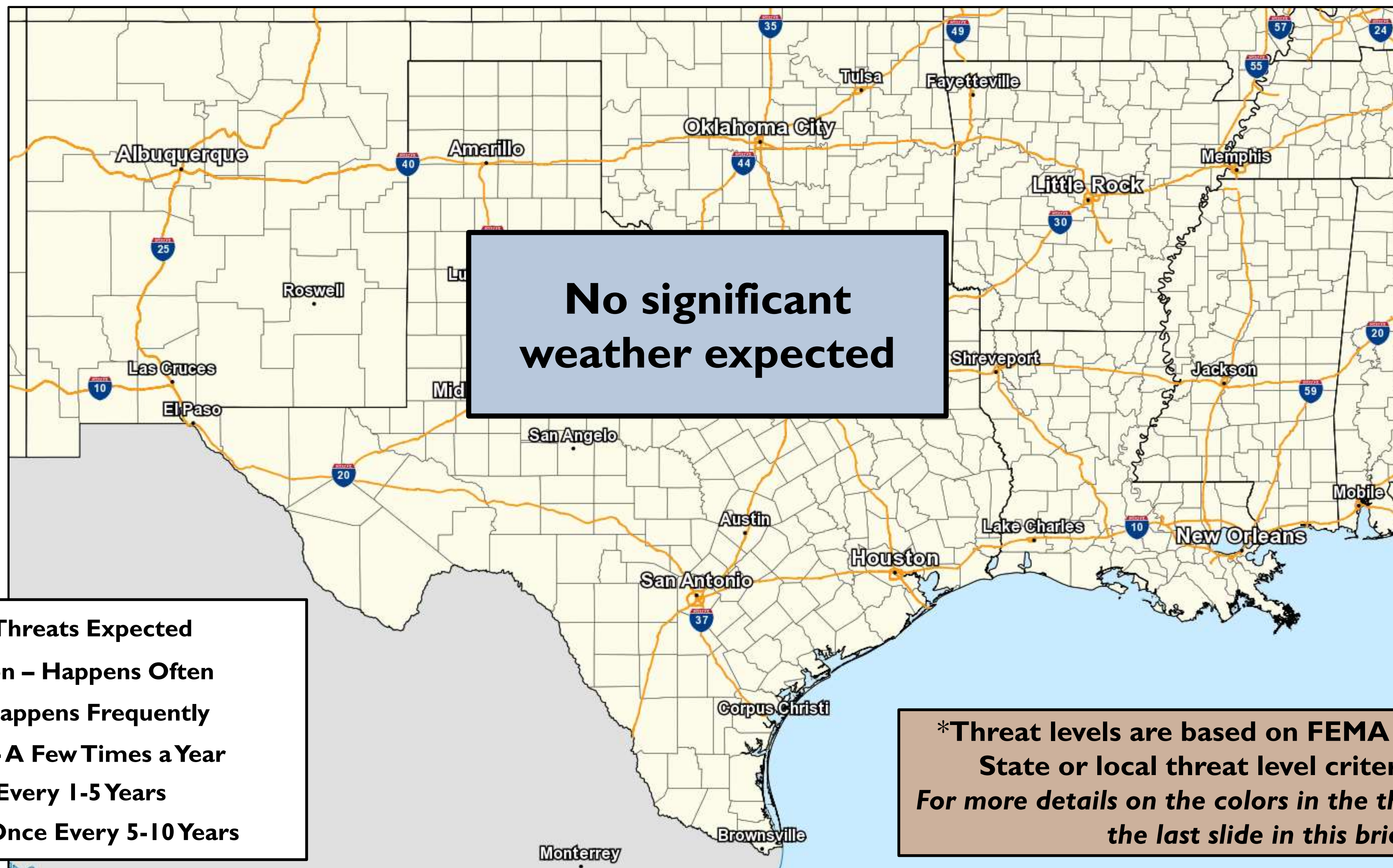
Excessive Rainfall Outlook

Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Thursday – Friday



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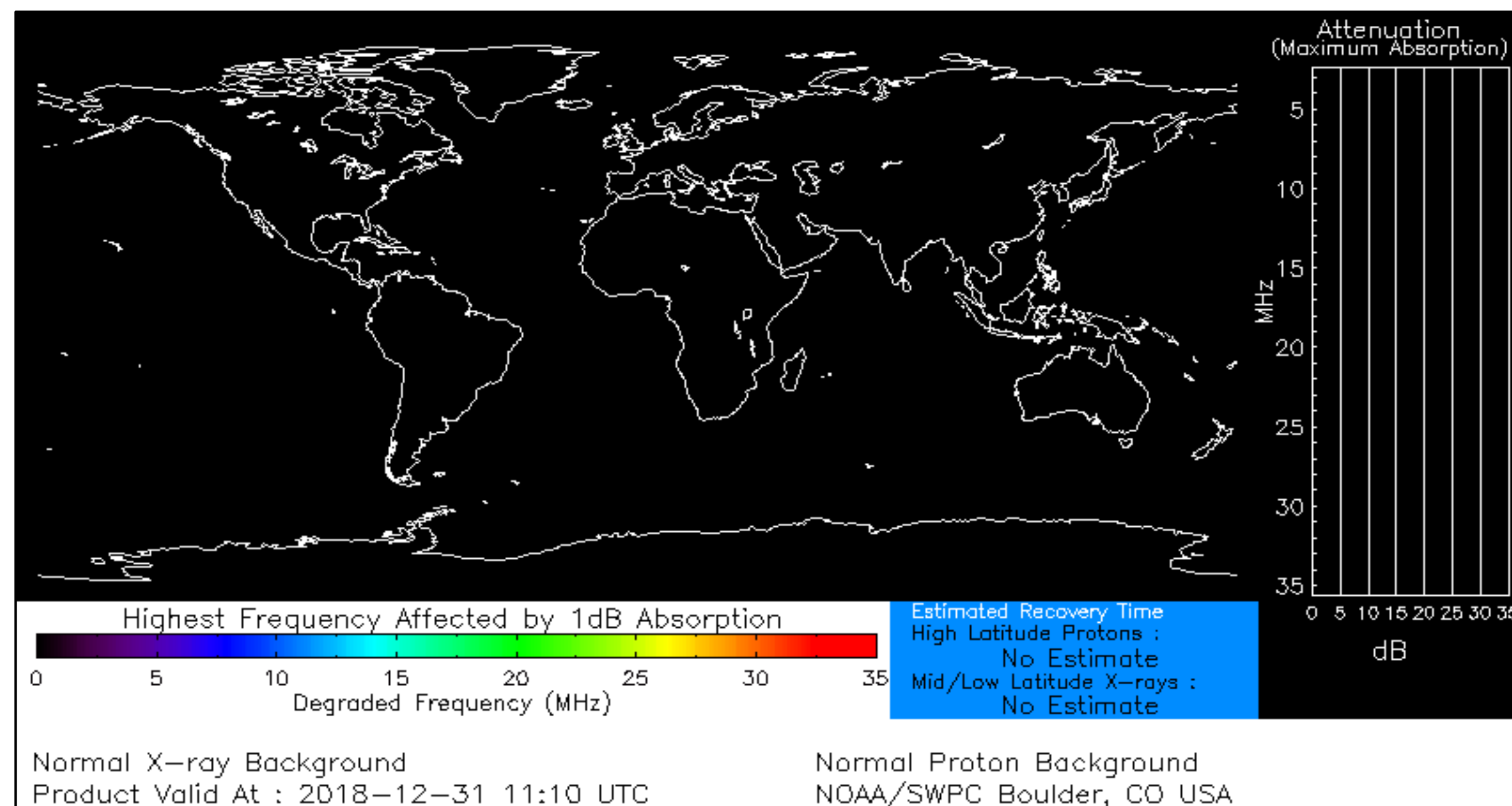


Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



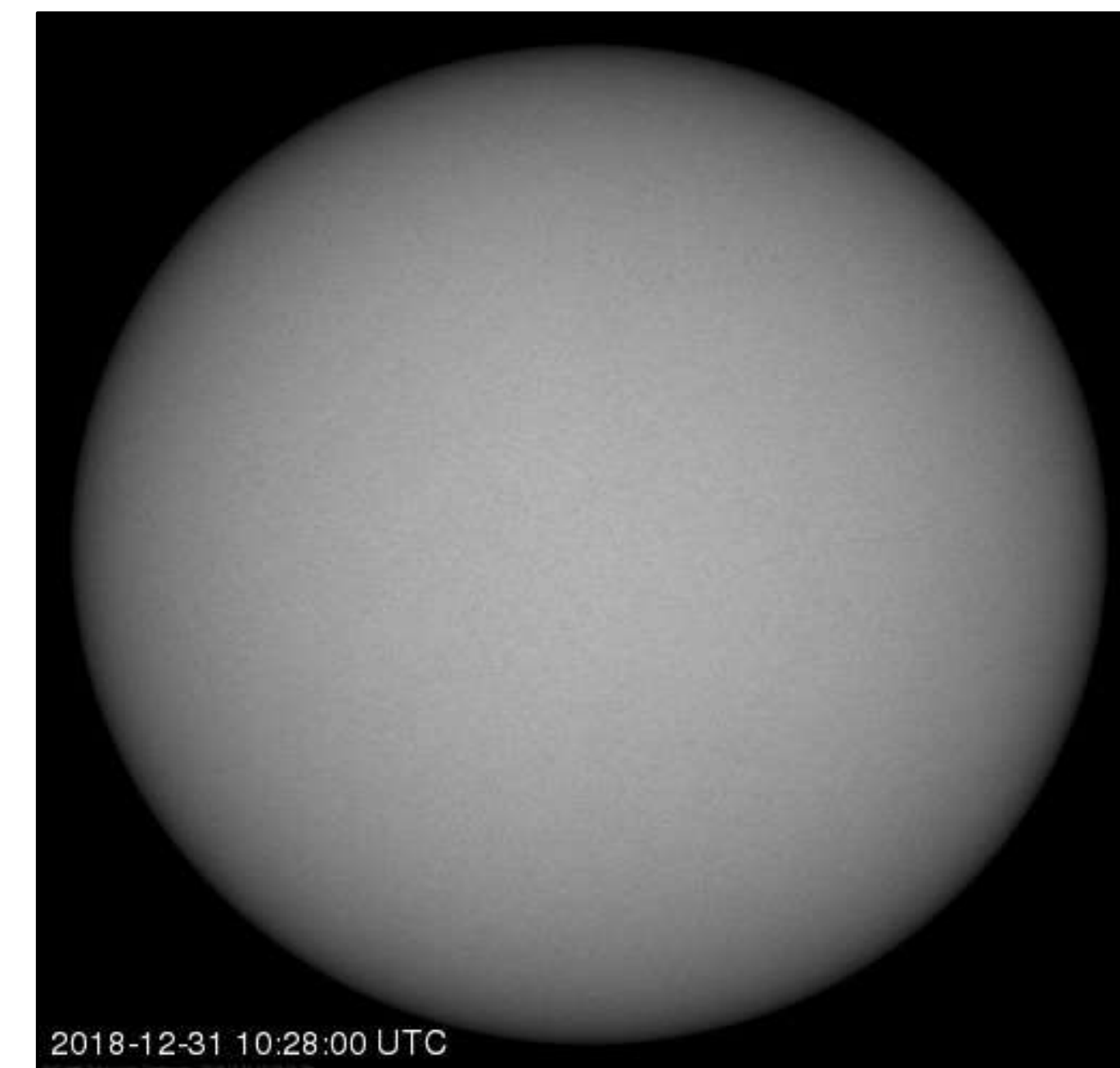
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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)





For more information, please contact:

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>



Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms

Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to

sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov